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# 2016 Annual Report State of Hawai`i

Nā Kupa Alo Ana  
O Hawai`i  
August 17, 2016



*Aloha e*

*Since its inception five years ago, Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi Citizen Review Panel has worked collaboratively with Hawaii Child Welfare Services on achieving its goals on behalf of Hawaiʻi's abused and neglected children.*

*The Panel, once again, would like to thank Tracy Yadao, Assistant Program Administrator, Program Development, Child Welfare Services' Citizen Review Panel liaison. Her responsibilities include meeting with our panel monthly to share information regarding Hawaiʻi's child welfare system and to respond to issues and discuss recommendations. Without her efforts, Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi would not be able to accomplish its goals.*

*We would also like to thank Bonnie Hoskins, Secretary to Program Development, Child Welfare Services, who coordinates our travel so that the Panel can be effective in addressing issues and achieving goals.*

*Mahalo to Queen Liliʻuokalani Children's Center (QLCC) for graciously providing us with a beautiful meeting room when Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi conducts face-to-face meetings on Oʻahu.*

*The Panel would also like to thank Dawn Slaten, Attorney, for her membership with Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi for over five years. Her valuable insights and legal expertise have contributed greatly to the effectiveness of the Panel in achieving its goals and fulfilling its mission. We will surely miss having Dawn as a member of our CRP.*

*Finally, we would like to thank Blake Jones, Program Coordinator of Citizens Review Panels, College of Social Work, University of Kentucky, for his continuing guidance and support of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi.*

*Mahalo,*

*Jacqueline Perry*

*Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawaiʻi*

### *Who We Are*

Hawai'i's Citizen's Review Panel (CRP) is comprised of citizen volunteers, as mandated by the Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). Our mission is to examine the policies, procedures, and practices of Hawai'i's child welfare services system to evaluate agency practice and to enhance the agency's capacity to help Hawai'i's children and families engaged in child welfare services achieve positive outcomes.

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i is comprised of citizens who represent their organizations and have knowledge about children from their respective islands. Representatives are committed to meeting the needs of children. Together, we make recommendations to the child welfare system on making improvements to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children and families in our community.

### *Participation in Monthly Meetings*

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i members, representative from each county, have met monthly either through face-to-face visits on O'ahu or through telephone conference to establish goals and discuss projects and issues related to Hawaii Child Welfare Services (CWS).

## *Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai`i*

Stephen Morse, Blueprint for Change, O`ahu, Chairperson

Maylyn Tallett, Department of Health, Hilo, Vice Chairperson

Judy Adviento, Family Programs Hawaii, O`ahu

Jeny Bissell, Department of Health, Maui

Jacque Kelley-Uyeoka, Hale Kipa, O`ahu

Monica Ka`auwai, Partners in Development, Kaua`i

Sharie Liden, Department of Education, Lana`i

Jamie Rodriques, Parents and Children Together, O`ahu

Jacqueline Perry, Hawaii Child Welfare Continuous Quality Improvement Project, Maui

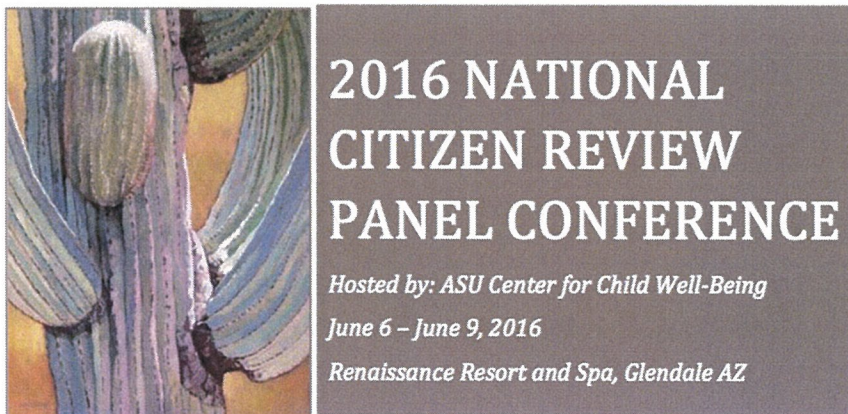
Ruthann Quitiquit, Citizen, O`ahu

Dawn Slaten, Attorney, O`ahu



### *Summary of Panel Activities*

#### *Participation in 2016 National Citizen Review Panel Conference—Phoenix, Arizona*



Two members of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i, *Stephen Morse and Jacque Kelley-Ueoka*, attended the 2016 National Citizen Review Panel Conference in Glendale, Arizona. The theme of the conference was *Achieving Meaningful Impact: Citizen Involvement in Child Welfare*. The conference was two and a half days, and there were many networking and educational opportunities, for both new and seasoned CRP members, state coordinators, child welfare staff, and child welfare partners. Stephen and Jacque were able to network with other states to dialogue about the benefits of using a Memorandum of Understanding between CRPs and child welfare agencies. Further, the conference featured keynote speakers, five plenary sessions, and 20 breakout sessions covering relevant topics, such as *building citizen review panels, child welfare topics, collaboration for change, and a Word Café session where Panels can gain an understanding of how CRPs in other states accomplish their work, as well as to discover effective solutions or innovations*.

### *CRP Strategic Planning Retreat 2016*



In May this year, Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i participated in our annual strategic planning session. Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland discussed legislative support measures to reduce child neglect and abuse statewide. She also shared the April, 2016 policy report on *Kids Count* by Anne Casey Foundation. Dr. Robert Pantell also addressed the Panel and gave an overview of the role of *Child Death Reviews* in the State. He also discussed his role in future state policy development in preventing child deaths, such as mandating the hotel industry to secure life guards at large events, and requiring child care centers to have air conditioning when caring for children under six years old. The *CRP Strategic Planning Retreat* was instrumental in preparing a foundation for discussions and strategies with regard to topics of interest for future projects.

### *Engaging Fathers Project*

*Engaging Fathers Project* has two goals. The first one is to analyze if after the *Engaging Fathers* training by the agency, CWS caseworkers have been successful in locating and identifying fathers in their cases. The second goal is to analyze whether caseworkers have been successful in engaging fathers in their cases, after fathers have been located. CRP Panel members in this work group analyzed a random sample of local CFSR case reviews' completed instruments (from July 2014 to present) to gain information needed to draw conclusions regarding strategies and barriers of caseworkers' efforts to engage fathers. This work group developed an eight-question survey that was administered to caseworkers via Survey Monkey. Results from the survey have recently been summarized, with important feedback, both quantitative and qualitative information from caseworkers regarding the effectiveness of the Family Partnership Engagement Training (FPE), 2012 and caseworkers' barriers and strategies in identifying, locating, and engaging fathers in case planning. The Panel is presently in the process of analyzing the results of the survey for the Father Engagement Project and will share the results and recommendations with CWS Branch in its next annual report.



## *Memorandum of Understanding*

This year the Panel drafted an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by and between the State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services and of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i in an effort to establish an official partner with CWS, in mutual respect. It is the practice of many CRPs nationally to develop a *MOU* to clarify roles and responsibilities, and needs around information sharing. Successful CRPs create *MOUs* collaboratively with their child welfare agency to function effectively in their relationship with each other. Once the *MOU* is established, it is the Panel's hope that it will be modified or re-affirmed regularly.

## *Recommendation #1*

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i recommends that DHS read over with consideration the proposed Memorandum of Understanding by and between State of Hawaii, Department of Human Services and Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i, and within six months of receiving this report, collaborate with the Panel to establish a viable *MOU*.

## *Printing of "Help Guide for Families of Those Serving Time."*

A goal of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i is to address the problems families involved in child welfare face when a family member is incarcerated. The panel used some of its funds to print 50,000 copies of *The Help Guide for Families of Those Serving Time*, published by Keiki O Ka 'Aina and the Family Reunification Working Group. Attorney, Dawn Slaten, a member of Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i, in working with the Women's Community Correctional Center, the Public Defenders Office and Fernhurst, a women's furlough program, has distributed the brochure guide to support those families in Hawai'i affected by incarceration. Further, Stephen Morse, Blueprint for Change, who provides training to the Corrections Intake Service Center staff on the importance of effectively collecting vital informational on



Act 16 data, distributes the *Help Guide for Families of Those Serving Time* as a resource for staff to help families affected by parental or caregiver incarceration.

### ***Recommendation #2***

The Panel believes that the *Help Guide for Families of Those Serving Time* brochure would benefit children and parents involved in child welfare, when a family member is incarcerated, and Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i recommends to the Department that it be available to caseworkers as a resource for those families affected by incarceration. (Enclosed is a copy of the *Help Guide for Families of Those Serving Time*.)

### ***Summary***

Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i has worked diligently this year to reach some of the Panel's goals, to ensure that efforts are made to engage fathers in case planning, and to provide support in helping families affected by incarceration. Further, having the opportunity to network with other state CRPs and become informed about strategies by CRPs prompted the Panel to develop a Memorandum of Understanding, which we hope will benefit both Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i and the Department.

The Panel would also like to thank Child Welfare Services for their thoughtful, thorough, and timely response to last year's CRP annual report. Nā Kupa Alo Ana O Hawai'i will be spending time reviewing the Department's response at our next face-to-face meeting in August.

The Panel looks forward to continued work with Hawaii Child Welfare Services to address issues and topics of interest and continue to help children and families involved in the child welfare system have positive outcomes. We appreciate the opportunity the CRP has in continued dialogue with the community and the Department of Human Services, Child

Welfare Services Branch. We will be completing the Engaging Father's Project this year, and propose to develop new projects of interest to child welfare, in our efforts to support and enhance Hawai'i's child welfare service agency's capacity to help Hawai'i's children and families achieve positive outcomes.